

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 24

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 53

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 24—Relative to Black Music Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 4, 1997.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 24, Murray. Black Music Month.

This measure would recognize the significance of African-American and other black music to global culture, and the positive impact of this art form on global commerce, would designate the month of June as Black Music Month throughout the State of California, and would call upon the people of the state to study, reflect on, and celebrate the majesty, vitality, and importance of African-American and other black music.

WHEREAS, Artists, songwriters, producers, engineers, educators, executives, and other professionals in the music industry provide inspiration and leadership through the creation of music, dissemination of educational information, and financial contributions to charitable and community-based organizations; and

WHEREAS, African-American genres of music such as gospel, blues, jazz, rhythm and blues, rap, and hip-hop are indigenous to the United States, and have their roots in the African-American experience; and

WHEREAS, Black music, including African-American music, has a pervasive influence on dance, fashion, language, art, literature, cinema, media, advertising, and other aspects of our culture; and

WHEREAS, The prominence of African-American and other black music in the 20th century has renewed interest in the legacy and heritage of this art form; and

WHEREAS, Black music embodies the strong presence of, and significant contributions made by, African-Americans in the music industry and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Black music has generated a multibillion dollar industry that contributes greatly to the domestic and worldwide economy; and

WHEREAS, In 1979, a meeting between then-President Jimmy Carter, Kenneth Gamble, the president of Philadelphia International Records and cofounder of the Black Music Association, and a delegation of 77 black music professionals, resulted in President Carter's designation of June as Black Music Month; and

WHEREAS, Black music has a broad appeal to diverse groups, both nationally and internationally; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature recognizes the significance of African-American and other black music to global culture, and the positive impact of this art form on global commerce; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature hereby designates the month of June as Black Music Month throughout the State of California, and calls upon the people of the state to study, reflect on, and celebrate the majesty, vitality, and importance of African-American and other black music; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

